

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 01751 01 OF 02 020236Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /074 W
-----126835 020243Z /65

O 020230Z MAY 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1093
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01751

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: CONTACT GROUP DISCUSSION FOLLOWING
MAY 1 MEETING WITH SWAPO

1. FOLLOWING MAY 1 MEETING WITH SWAPO (SEPTTEL), CONTACT
GROUP MET TO CONSIDER HOW WE SHOULD PROCEED. GROUP
READILY AGREED THAT IF WE WISH TO GAIN SWAPO'S SUPPORT FOR
OUR PROPOSAL, WE WILL HAVE TO HOLD FURTHER TALKS, AND
THEY WILL HAVE TO BE HELD IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ENTIRE
SWAPO NEGOTIATING TEAM. (GROUP FELT THAT THE SMALLER
SWAPO GROUP CURRENTLY IN NEW YORK CLEARLY LACKS THE SELF-
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CONFIDENCE NEEDED TO ATTEMPT TO SELL A NEW POSITION TO
THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE; THUS THE NEED FOR THE FULL NEGO-
TIATING TEAM.) GROUP ALSO AGREED THAT WE SHOULD AIM AT
STARTING THE NEXT TALKS ON FRIDAY, MAY 5, AS NUJOMA HAD
EARLIER SUGGESTED. (GROUP DOES NOT KNOW HOW LONG TALKS
WOULD LAST BUT ASSUMES THAT ONE DAY WOULD NOT BE ENOUGH.)

2. THE CONTACT GROUP THEN CONSIDERED QUESTION OF HOW WE SHOULD APPROACH THE TALKS WITH SWAPO. AMBASSADOR MCHENRY BEGAN DISCUSSION BY SUGGESTING THAT WE SHOULD FOCUS NOT ON THE PROPOSAL BUT ON THE LANGUAGE OF THE REPORT WHICH THE SECRETARY GENERAL WILL HAVE TO SUBMIT CONCERNING HOW HE WOULD IMPLEMENT THE PROPOSAL. PERHAPS SOME OF THE ASSURANCES WHICH SWAPO DESIRES COULD BE INCORPORATED IN THE REPORT AS LONG AS THEY DID NOT ALTER THE SUBSTANCE OF THE PROPOSAL.

3. AMBASSADOR YOUNG PURSUED THE POINT, STATING THAT THE FIVE SHOULD ACCEPT THAT WE HAVE DEVELOPED A FINE PROPOSAL AND THAT FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS ON ITS LANGUAGE WILL ACHIEVE NOTHING POSITIVE. THE FIVE SHOULD, THEREFORE, SEE IF WE CAN ALLEVIATE SWAPO'S CONCERNS IN ANOTHER MANNER. AMBASSADOR YOUNG EXPRESSED HIS BELIEF THAT SAM NUJOMA'S PRIMARY PROBLEMS ARE NOT WITH THE PROPOSAL; RATHER THEY ARE: (A) TRYING TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND IN NAMIBIA WOULD BE SAFE ENOUGH UNDER OUR PROPOSAL TO ENABLE HIM AND SWAPO TO SURVIVE ELECTIONS; AND (B) DEALING WITH THE PRESSURE BEING EXERTED BY THE RUSSIANS. YOUNG CONCLUDED THAT WE HAVE DONE WHAT WE CAN TO ENCOURAGE THE RUSSIANS TO PLAY A LESSER ROLE AND THAT WE SHOULD, THEREFORE, FOCUS ON NUJOMA'S SECURITY CONCERNS. YOUNG SUGGESTED THAT THE ASSURANCES WHICH NUJOMA WANTS, WITH REGARD TO THE ROLE OF THE UN, MIGHT BE PROVIDED
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BY HAVING BRIAN URQUHART (THE UN'S TOP PEACEKEEPING EXPERT) AND OTHER SECRETARIAT PERSONNEL ATTEND THE FIVE'S NEXT MEETING WITH SWAPO AND DESCRIBE HOW THE UN MIGHT CARRY OUT SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF ELECTIONS UNDER OUR PROPOSAL IF THEY WERE GIVEN A MANDATE TO DO SO. YOUNG SUGGESTED THAT IF SWAPO WERE TO BEGIN TO GET A PICTURE OF WHAT SEVERAL THOUSAND UN MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL WOULD LOOK LIKE ON THE GROUND IN NAMIBIA, THEY MIGHT BE LESS FEARFUL.

4. THE CONTACT GROUP, EXCEPT FOR THE BRITISH, ACCEPTED AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S SUGGESTION, RECOGNIZING THE FUTILITY OF ARGUING THE LANGUAGE OF THE PROPOSAL WITH SWAPO. THE BRITISH (ERPM REP IVOR RICHARD) WAS LESS CERTAIN ABOUT THE NOTION OF BRINGING THE SECRETARY GENERAL INTO AN ACTIVE ROLE--EVEN A TEMPORARY ONE--IN THE WORK OF THE CONTACT GROUP. HE AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WOULD BE NO HARM IN HAVING ONE OR TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONTACT GROUP DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH BRIAN URQUHART AND PERHAPS ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FARAH. THE GROUP ALSO AGREED TO SOUND OUT INFORMALLY THE SECRETARIAT ON THE STATE OF ITS PRELIMINARY PLANS FOR UN INVOLVEMENT IN

NAMIBIA AND TO HOLD ANOTHER OF OUR FREQUENT DISCUSSIONS
WITH THE SYG.

5. GROUP ALSO AGREED THAT SWAPO SHOULD BE INFORMED EARLY
MAY 2 THAT WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO HOLD TALKS WITH THE
ENTIRE NEGOTIATING TEAM ON FRIDAY, MAY 5. (THIS ASSUMES
THAT THE FIVE WILL HAVE TO PAY FOR TRANSPORTATION, ROOM,
AND PER DIEM FOR SWAPO TEAM.) CONTACT GROUP WILL MEET
AM MAY 2 TO AGREE ON SUBSTANCE OF RESPONSE TO SWAPO; PRO-
CEDURAL GUIDELINES FOR EMBASSIES (ESPECIALLY FINANCIAL AND
TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR SWAPO); TALKING POINTS FOR USE

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 /074 W
-----126847 020245Z /65

O 020230Z MAY 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1094
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 01751

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

WITH SOUTH AFRICA; AND PRESS GUIDANCE. YOUNG

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